

We claim:

1. In a method of applying horizontal markings to roads or other traffic areas comprising applying to the road or other traffic area an aqueous, water-thinnable, acid-coagulable emulsion paint and contacting the applied paint with an acid, the improvement comprising using as the acid one or more polycarboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of a dicarboxylic acid, a tetracarboxylic acid or mixtures thereof.
2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said polycarboxylic acid is a dicarboxylic acid
3. . The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said dicarboxylic acid is a dibasic acid
4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said dibasic acid is selected from the group oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric acid and adipic acid.
5. The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said dibasic acid is malonic acid.
6. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein the polycarboxylic acid is sprayed onto the applied paint.
7. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein the polycarboxylic acid is first coated onto glass beads and then said coated glass beads contact said applied paint..